

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CANBER 01106 250613Z

17

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 SY-10 A-01 PC-10 AID-20 IGA-02

CU-04 PRS-01 CPR-02 SAM-01 RSC-01 DRC-01 /088 W

----- 026230

R 250440Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2631

INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 1106

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (RUSH)

SUBJ: DEP SEC VISIT TO PAPUA NEW GINEA

REF: A) STATE 035421

B) CANBERRA 0773

C) CANBERRA 1025

D) STATE 032517

1. SUMMARY: SUBJECT OF POSSIBLE U.S. AID TO PNG HAS BEEN DISCUSSED AT LEAST TWICE DURING PAST TWO WEEKS WITH GOA AND PNG OFFICIALS IN CANBERRA. THEY UNDERSTAND CONTENT OF PARA 2 REF D. RE PEACE CORPS, EMBASSY HAS REQUESTED ONLY INFORMALLY AND TENTATIVELY PNG GOVERNMENT'S REACTION TO THIS IDEA. WE DO NOT AS YET HAVE ANY REPLY, ALTHOUGH EMBOFF WILL BE GUIDED BY INFORMATION CONTAINED PARA 2 REF A, IN FURTHER DISCUSSIONS PEACE CORPS PROGRAM WITH PNG AND GOA OFFICIALS. END SUMMARY.

2. DEPARTMENT MAY BE ASSURED THAT USG POSITION ON AID TO PAPUA NEW GINEA STATED REF D FULLY UNDERSTOOD BY DFA AND PNG OFFICIALS. EMBASSY COVERED THIS SUBJECT IN COURSE OF CONSULTATIONS REPORTED REFS B AND C. IF U.S. AID IS NOT SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED IN DFA CABLES TO AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON IT IS PROBABLY BECAUSE THEY SEE NO CHANGE IN USG POSITION
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CANBER 01106 250613Z

FROM THAT STATED BY DEP SEC RUSH TO EBIA OLEWALE IN

DECEMBER , 1973 IN WASHINGTON.

3. WITH REFERENCE TO SUBJECT OF PEACE CORPS, EMBASSY INTERPRETED PARA 6 REF D TO MEAN THAT DEP SEC MIGHT WISH TO RAISE SUBJECT DURING TALKS WITH PNG MINISTERS AND IF RESPONSE FAVORABLE MIGHT EVEN WISH TO INCLUDE REFERENCE TO IT IN JOINT COMMUNIQUE, ALTHOUGH THIS LATTER POINT NOT CLEAR FROM STATE MESSAGE. EMBASSY, THEREFORE, PRESENTED TWO AIDE MEMOIRES, ONE TO GOA AND ANOTHER TO PNG COMMISSIONER IN CANBERRA WHICH ASKED FOR INITIAL AND VERY TENTATIVE REACTIONS OF THESE TWO ENTITIES TO IDEA OF PEACE CORPS IN PNG.

4. WE WERE INFORMED BY DFA REPS THAT IF HANDLED JUDICIOUSLY, PNG GOVERNMENT PROBABLY WOULD ACCEPT PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF CURRENT TEACHER SHORTAGE. DFA RE HOWEVER MADE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT ANY PROPOSAL ABOUT PEACE CORPS WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE TO PNG GOVERNMENT AND THAT AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD BE INCLINED TO ACCEPT WHATEVER DECISION PNG GOVERNMENT MADE ON THIS SUBJECT. GOA REPS RECOGNIZED THAT SITUATION MAY HAVE CHANGED FROM THAT FEW YEARS AGO AND ACCEPTED ARGUMENT MADE IN PARA 6 REF D REGARD TO PEACE CORPS MEMBERS IN MICRONESIA THEIR FINAL WORD REMAINED HOWEVER QUITE TENTATIVE AND WAS GIVEN AS A WORKING-LEVEL ASSESSMENT ONLY.

5. PNG COMMISSIONER OALA-RARUA EXPRESSED IMMEDIATE INTEREST IN HAVING PEACE CORPS PROGRAM IN PNG, APPARENTLY ON BASIS THAT TEACHER SHORTAGE IS ACUTE. AGAIN, EMBASSY ASKED ONLY FOR INITIAL AND INFORMAL PNG GOVERNMENT REACTION. WE HAVE AS YET NO REACTION FROM PORT MORESBY.

6. INVIEW OF PARA 2 REF A, EMBOFFS HAS ALREADY INFORMED APPROPRIATE AUSTRALIAN OFFICIALS WE ANTICIPATE DEP SEC WILL NOT RAISE SUBJECT OF PEACE CORPS PROGRAM IN PORT MORESBY BUT WILL BE PREPARED TO RESPOND TO IT IF RAISED AND WILL REPEAT THIS TOPNG LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 CANBER 01106 250613Z

OFFICIALS WHEN HE ARRIVES IN PORT MORESBY FEB 26. FROM CONVERSATIONS WITH PNG PERMANENT HEAD CONROY IN CANBERRA MORE THAN TWO WEEKS AGO, HOWEVER, IT WOULD APPEAR LIKELY THAT MINISTER OF EDUCATION OLEWALE MAY WELL RAISE THIS SUBJECT DURING DEP SEC'S VISIT.

FROM RECENT EXPERIENCE, IT APPEARS CLEAR THAT ANY

PROPOSALS LIKE THE PEACE CORPS PROGRAM WILL HAVE TO
BE MADE DIRECTLY TO PNG GOVERNMENT RATHER THAN THROUGH
GOA. THIS IS DIFFICULT AND CONFUSING PERIOD IN PNG-
AUSTRALIAN RELATIONS, BUT GOA IS DOING EVERYTHING
POSSIBLE TO MAKE SURE PNT GOVERNMENT HAS FINAL DECISION
ON SUCH MATTERS. WHILE EMBASSY SEES NO HARM
AT PRESENT IN INFORMING GOA OF ANY SUCH USG
PROPOSALS, WE MUST BE CAREFUL NOT TO OFFEND PNG
GOVERNMENT BY APPEARING TO SOLICIT AUSTRALIAN
GOVERNMENT ADVICE ON SUBJECTS ON WHICH THEY NO LONGER
WISH TO HAVE POWER OF DECISION.
GREEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CANBER01106
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740212/aaaaakyb.tel
Line Count: 127
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) STATE 035421
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUL 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <09 JUL 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEP SEC VISIT TO PAPUA NEW GINEA
TAGS: OVIP, (RUSH, KENNETH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005